

MAJOR WELCH'S HIS HEAVY GUNS

Minnesota's Governor Addresses
the State Legislature

On the Subject of Northern
Securities Company.

MUST DO SOMETHING

He Says, or Soon It Will Be Too
Late to Act.

Merger Would Have the People
at Its Mercy.

St. Paul, Feb. 5.—At 10:30 o'clock before the session of the legislature which had been assembled in extra session to receive the report of the tax commission and the measures presented by that body for enactment, Governor Van Sant today read his message. The principal portion was devoted to the recommendations of the commission, to which he made some amendments, covering points which were suggested by the commission but not approved by him. After reciting the occasion for the extra session to be the desire to secure a revision of the somewhat mixed tax laws of the state, he urged that immediate action on the matter be taken, looking to the passage of laws suggested by the commission, with such amendments as may be deemed wise. He argued against any discrimination in the laws, especially speaking against any laws which might make the poor bear an unequal share of the burden of taxation. He would not analyze the proposals of the commission, but simply called attention to it as an improvement over the existing statutes, and would not consider it. He, however, partially endorsed the suggestion of a permanent tax commission, opposed any reduction in the amount of revenue derived from taxation, and suggests that the grain tax be made to agree with those of neighboring states.

The only subject discussed in the so-called railroad merger, of which he says:

"At this time I desire to inform the legislature of the suit brought by the state of Minnesota against the Northern Securities company of New Jersey. Believing this corporation was organized for the purpose of evading and violating the laws of Minnesota, by consolidating the properties of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific companies, which companies run parallel and competing lines of railway within the state, I requested Attorney General Douglas to bring suit in the name of the state to prevent such consolidations."

He then quotes from the statutes covering the case, continuing:

"That the Northern Securities company can, and if not prevented by the courts, will merge or consolidate the lines and all other lines of the companies under one management, is evidenced by reference to sections 3 and 4 of the articles of incorporation of the Northern Securities company, which authorize that company to purchase, hold, sell, assign, transfer mortgage, pledge or in any manner dispose of the stock of any corporation or corporations, association or associations, of the state of New Jersey, or any other state, territory or country, and while the owner of such stock, to exercise all the rights, powers and privileges of ownership including the right to vote thereon. To add in that manner any corporation or association of which any bonds or other securities or evidences, or stock are held by the corporation; and to do any acts or things deemed necessary to preserve, improve or enhance the value of any such bonds or other securities, or evidences, or stock."

"Those powers are as broad as language can make them and authorize the Northern Securities company, not only to vote the stock of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific Railway companies and thus exercise all the powers and privileges of ownership and control, but to acquire the stock of any corporation to do any acts or things designed to enhance the value of the stock of the corporation mentioned, which, of course, includes the right to increase freight rates directly, or to change the classification of freight so as to increase the rates."

"Knowing that several other states in addition to Minnesota would be affected by this consolidation and that the declared public policy of the state through constitutional or legislative provisions was similar to that of our state, I deemed it wise to call a conference of the governors and attorneys general of the states through which the lines of railway pass, in order that such method of proceeding might be adopted as would be uniform. This conference was held at Helena, Mont. There were present the governors and attorneys general of Montana, South Dakota and Idaho, and the attorney general of Washington. The governor of the last named state died just prior to the conference and owing to this fact his successor, Gov. McBride, was unable to attend.

"Governor McBride has since, however, in a published interview, called the attention of the people of his state to the dangers threatened by the consolidation of these two companies. The conference was harmonious throughout and that the official representatives of the various states were wholly in sympathy with the public policy of the state in its determination to oppose this consolidation, is shown by the following resolution which was unanimously adopted at Helena which have been heretofore published and continued:

"It was determined that the importance of the case and for the purpose of getting the matter disposed of at as early a date as possible to bring the suit in the supreme court of the United States in the first instance." He recited the argument before that court on January 27 and added:

"What the result will be, it is difficult to foretell, but it does not seem possible that a New Jersey corporation, no matter what its organization will be permitted to violate the laws of the sovereign state of Minnesota. If the final decision should be against the state the battle is not the lost; there is one remedy that never fails and which is more supreme even than the supreme court. I quote the words of Judge Brewer, in a case decided by the centennial of Yale college in which he said in speaking of trusts and the inability of the courts to crush them, 'Appeal must be taken to the great court of public opinion, whose decrees are irrevocable.'"

THE LAST GUN.

Kitchener Reports That He Has
Captured De Wet's Last One.

London, Feb. 5.—The British pursuit of General De Wet has been successful, to the extent that his last gun has been captured, and Commander Wessels, one of his principal lieutenants, has been routed. Lord Kitchener sent the news in a dispatch from Pretoria dated Tuesday, February 4, as follows:

"Byng's column, while proceeding towards Liebenburgville, after a night march attacked and routed a considerable force of the enemy under Commandant Wessels. We captured a 15-pounder and a pom-pom taken from De Wet's column, and also a Boer pom-pom that was the last gun De Wet had, and three wagons of ammunition, 150 horses and 100 mules. The Boer casualties were five men killed, six wounded and 27 men captured.

"Among the killed was Field Cornet Wessels. Among the prisoners is Capt. Muller, of the Staats artillerie. The enemy were scattered. Our casualties were slight.

"The national scouts near Middleburg (Cape Colony) captured 13 prisoners. 'Plumer, near Amersfoort (Transvaal), captured seven prisoners and 500 head of cattle.

"Gen. Gilbert Hamilton captured 33 prisoners."

At 2:30 o'clock this morning fire of unknown origin broke out in the mercantile house of Kennard, Vickers & Co., who made an assignment last Saturday. The building, which belonged to J. H. Hatch, was valued at \$10,000, insured for \$5,000. The stock was valued at \$5,000, and insured for \$3,000. From the Hatch building the fire spread, destroying numerous other buildings. Among the victims are Simon and Dorcas grocers, loss \$3,000; no insurance; Dr. J. H. Grindley, Wells street, loss \$1,000; and the finest library in the state.

FIRE AT SENECA. Of Unknown Origin — Flames Cause Heavy Loss.

St. Joseph, Mo., Feb. 5.—A special to the Daily News from Seneca, Kan., says:

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GRIMES IS PAYING THEM

Is Criticized For Not Calling in
"Not Paid" Warrants.

State Treasurer Grimes is now taking up the warrants which were last stamped "not paid for want of funds." He has called a meeting of the committee on the general revenue fund since the state taxes began to roll in about the first of the year. It is claimed that he might have called a meeting of the committee in time to have stopped the interest on them a month ago. The warrants in question are for \$2,500 from the amount outstanding draw \$2,500 from the treasury, and the state treasurer is paying them until he had the money in the treasury to pay them.

WITH BALL AND CHAIN.

Prisoner is Taken Into Court Heavily
Irons.

Hays, Kan., Feb. 5.—District court met here today. Charles Kertus was present. He was charged with the murder of a woman and was taken into court heavily ironed and chained to a pole. He was charged with the murder of a woman and was taken into court heavily ironed and chained to a pole. He was charged with the murder of a woman and was taken into court heavily ironed and chained to a pole.

Mother and Children Die by Fire.

Waterloo, Ia., Feb. 5.—Mrs. Ed Kuehner and two children were burned to death in their home last night in a fire caused by a lamp. One child was fatally burned and three others seriously injured. The children were playing around a table on which the lamp stood. The fire broke out and the mother and children, who were unable to escape, perished. The firemen succeeded in rescuing four of the children, one of whom can hardly survive.

Sixth District Committee to Meet.

John Q. Royce, chairman of the Sixth district Republican congressional committee, has called a meeting of the committee at Colby on February 12, to determine the place and representation of the Sixth district in the coming election. The committee will be composed of Royce, Reed, Wellington and White, and will hold its session at the state convention on May 28.

Temperatures of Large Cities.

Chicago, Feb. 5.—7 a. m. temperatures: New York 10; Boston 14; Philadelphia 12; Washington 18; Chicago 8; Minneapolis 14; Cincinnati 2; St. Louis 6.

Weather Indications.

Chicago, Feb. 5.—Forecast for Kansas: Partly cloudy tonight; Thursday with possibly snow flurries in eastern portion tonight; warmer tonight; variable winds.

NO SIDE ISSUES.

R. B. Welch Says Local Fight
Will Be Straight Out.

Wants No Factional Feeling In-
jected Into It.

CURTIS IS NOT IN IT.

Had Understanding Before He
Left For Washington.

No One Here Foolish Enough to
Oppose Mr. Curtis.

R. B. Welch, who is a candidate for associate justice of the supreme court, and who wants the Shawnee county delegation to go to the state convention instructed for him and in the interest of no one else, says that he desires that the contest be between him and James A. Troutman on their merits, and with no other influence or question in the fight.

Mr. Welch says he wishes to have an open contest with Mr. Troutman for the delegation and the interest of no other person is to be attached to his candidacy. Mr. Welch said this morning:

"There is no truth in the report that my candidacy is in the interest of Mr. Bailey for governor. To people who know that my candidacy was announced as early as November 16 last, and two whole months before the announcement of either Mr. Troutman or Mr. Bailey, this story must need no refutation. I am running in the interest of R. B. Welch, an associate justice only. I am neither for nor against any other person for any other office. I desire the help of every Republican elector in Shawnee county in my contest with Mr. Troutman, with the distinct understanding that if I win the Shawnee delegation I will not be a candidate for the office of associate justice. I am for myself as against the world. I do not see how I can make this matter plainer. I could wish with great propriety that Mr. Troutman were a candidate for the office of associate justice, but I think he is too good a politician to make such a mistake. That would defeat the very purpose of his candidacy. If he wins he wants the delegation as a Troutman delegation without strings tied to it. If I win I want the same thing. This is all there is to this contest, whatever stories may be put in circulation to the contrary.

Mr. Curtis and I have been warm personal friends for years. Before I became a candidate we talked this matter over twice. The first time about a month ago and the last time just before he left for Washington. He said that my candidacy would in no way affect his candidacy, and that he had no objection to it. He also said that he was a friend of Mr. Troutman's and that in case of a controversy between Mr. Curtis and myself, he would be a friend of Mr. Curtis's. I believe there is no man foolish enough to attempt it. Every delegate who goes to the state convention will be a friend of Mr. Curtis's without reference to who wins in this contest. I believe that Mr. Curtis's interest in the contest is to protect native officers who are in the United States could carry Shawnee county as against Mr. Curtis. I believe there is no man foolish enough to attempt it. Every delegate who goes to the state convention will be a friend of Mr. Curtis's without reference to who wins in this contest. 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